

gifted students the chance to expand their learning experience far beyond the traditional classroom setting. The Honors College admits about 400 freshmen with an average 3.95 high school GPA every fall and currently has a total of 1,250 students who challenge themselves at the highest level so that they can fulfill their potential. Once enrolled in the Honors College, these exceptional students enjoy the benefits of priority registration that ensures access to optimal class schedules, fellowship and study abroad programs that provide valuable work experiences and enrich global perspectives, and specialized staff that offer counseling on career goals, academic courses, and scholarship opportunities.

Students engage in active learning both inside and outside of the classroom by taking more challenging courses and participating in community action events. By providing all of these exciting learning opportunities to thousands of bright young students through decades of dedicated hard work, the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College has become a cornerstone of the University of Mississippi, ensuring its standing as one of the great American public Universities.

The National Collegiate Honors Council, after decades of growth and experience, continues to dedicate itself to promoting educational excellence within our nation's colleges and universities while preparing students for successful professional careers. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the program's contributions to our nation's educational and professional communities honoring its 50th anniversary.

CONGRATULATING LIBERTY CORNER SCHOOL FOR BEING NAMED BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Liberty Corner School of Liberty Corner, New Jersey for being named a Blue Ribbon School by the United States Department of Education.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools award honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of achievement. Liberty Corner was cited as an "Exemplary High Performing" school, as measured by state assessments and national tests. This recognition is a testament to the outstanding work and dedication of the faculty and staff, as well as the efforts and successes of the students in creating a safe and welcoming school where students master challenging content.

The curriculum at Liberty Corner School has prepared students to attend some of the finest universities in the Nation and the extracurricular activities, electives, leadership training and guest speakers offer students a wide array of academic experiences. Liberty Corner School's athletic program continues to grow as well, both in scope and success.

This is a prestigious award to receive and Liberty Corner School is a proud example of

academic excellence and worthy of this national distinction.

HONORING ARTHUR WHEELOCK

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Mr. Arthur Wheelock of Vernon, Connecticut on his outstanding four decades of teaching and coaching at Rockville High School.

A lifelong Ram, Art graduated from Rockville High School in 1968. After attending college at West Virginia Wesleyan, he returned to Rockville to teach physical education, a position he would hold for the next 42 years. Shortly after launching his teaching career, Art began coaching baseball, followed by football and basketball. His skills as a coach quickly gained notice in Vernon, and soon spread both across Connecticut and the nation. Scholastic sports in Vernon have a rich tradition, with numerous state titles and a passionate fan base. At the state level, Art was recognized as the Connecticut High School Baseball Coaches Association's "Coach of the Year" in 2006, and nationally, received the "Take Pride in America" award for his work in starting Pee Wee Sports with the Vernon Junior Women's Club. And in 2003, Art won the American Baseball Coaches Association's Regional Coach-of-the-Year Award.

Art has devoted his life to working with the community, leaving a significant and positive impact on thousands of Connecticut students. He has coached 758 baseball games, winning 433, including 11 conference championships. In his over 41 years at Rockville High School, Art has coached more games than any other individual in the school's history. Under his leadership, his students also reached three state championship games, and captured the 2000 Class "L" title. A tireless teacher, coach, and mentor to Connecticut students, Art has demonstrated a passion for helping youth through sports that is unmatched. Without exaggeration, Art touched the lives of thousands of youngsters, transforming their lives as a positive role model. The Vernon community is very fortunate to have benefited from his experience and dedication for so many years.

Please join me in congratulating Art on a lifetime of service to his community, and wishing him a rewarding, and well-deserved, retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES PAUL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate James Paul of Hastings, Iowa, for being inducted into the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame during a ceremony at the Iowa State Fair. Inductees to the Hall of Fame have demonstrated dedication, encouragement, commitment, and guidance to Iowa's 4-H students through the years.

James has been providing guidance and encouragement for youth for the past 30 years.

He has organized workshops and challenges that motivate the youth to experiment in growing a variety of crops and produce. James has assisted over 1,000 youth and adults in developing skills in gardening. He is a farmer in Mills County with his wife, Harva. They have three children who were all active 4-H members.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate James Paul for earning this award. He is a shining example of how hard work and dedication can have a positive impact on the future of our youth. I urge my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating James for his accomplishments within the 4-H community. I wish him nothing but continued success moving forward.

HONORING MR. KENNETH R. JOSEPH

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 2015

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated community service of Mr. Kenneth R. Joseph as he marks his 20th anniversary as a Trustee for Southwestern Illinois College.

Mr. Joseph was elected to then Belleville Area College's Board of Trustees in 1995 and has been continuously re-elected since that time. His fellow Board members chose him to serve as the Board's Chair in 1999 and subsequently chose him to serve as the Board's Vice Chair for 15 years. In addition to his many duties as Board Vice Chair, Mr. Joseph works enthusiastically with the administration, faculty, and staff on the Planning and Policy Committee. He has also served on the Board's Facilities and Finance, and Personnel, Programs and Services committees during his time on the Board. Also, he has served as a member of the Illinois Community College Trustee Association Board of Representatives.

Mr. Joseph is a retired Sheriff's Deputy, having served 22 years with the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department. He was a member of the first graduating class of the Southwestern Illinois Police Academy at the former BAC and earned his Associate in Applied Science Degree in Administration of Justice from the college as well. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from McKendree University in Lebanon.

As a Belleville, Illinois resident, retired peace officer, taxpayer, husband, father of three, and grandfather, Mr. Joseph chose to pursue a seat on the Southwestern Illinois College Board because he believed he could help ensure access to quality education for area residents, contribute to the success of the community college, and contribute to the success and growth of the Southwestern Illinois region.

Mr. Joseph has consistently and actively helped SWIC maintain its longstanding accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission, and achieve model-institution recognition from the HLC for its Academic Quality Improvement Program initiatives and achievements by insisting on the highest academic standards and state-of-the-art classroom technology.